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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3975

INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 000835

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/PB TOWNSWICK

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAID ECON EFIN AF PK SW

SUBJECT: SWEDEN NOT LIKELY TO DONATE TO PAKISTAN-ONLY
DONORS CONFERENCE

REF: SECSTATE 129615

Emboff delivered reftel demarche regarding the proposed rescheduling of the Pakistan Donors Conference to MFA South Asia Desk Officer Katrin Mansson. Regarding proposed dates, Mansson said an earlier conference would not likely result in a Swedish donation because Sweden has narrowed its bilateral foreign aid in South Asia to focus on Afghanistan. She expressed support for the thrust of the funding initiative insofar as it relates to civil society development in Pakistan, and when pressed suggested that a more regional focus that tied together India, Pakistan and Afghanistan might make a Swedish donation more politically palatable. Regardless, Sweden would be interested in participating as an observer to any Pakistan donor conference. Mansson made a point of noting that Sweden's engagement in the region would be closely aligned with the EU efforts, rather than bilateral Sweden-Pakistan engagement. She also noted that the upcoming India-EU summit would be a priority for Sweden.

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